

DOWN AMPNEY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT DOWN AMPNEY VILLAGE HALL
MONDAY 10th JULY 2017, 7.30PM**

Present : Cllrs Sillett (PS), Matthews (AM), Skinner (DS), Cope (GC), Tappern (GT) and Jenkins (RJ); Cllr Fowles - CDC (DF) and Cllr Parsons – GCC (SP), both present for part of meeting. Clerk – Gail Dillon; 10 members of public.

Apologies : Cllr Job (JJ).

Welcome	Action
<p>2. Minutes of last meeting: These were circulated and approved by the meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising: Highways and related issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RJ reported on a meeting he has had with Amey on a number of Highways issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GCC have confirmed that they will replace the footpath opposite the school from the War Memorial as far as they can with current available funding. GCC have also confirmed that the white lining will be painted. 2. Potholes – RJ was advised that they are using a different contractor now to repair potholes, which should improve the treatment and ensure it is more long-term. There was a query regarding repair of a large pothole outside the school, which RJ is waiting to hear back on. 3. Parking on verges – it has been confirmed that it is illegal to park on pavements. There is parking on the verges opposite no 50 and the PC has been offered some bollards to deter this. All agreed for this to be done. RJ to follow up 4. Speeding in village – humps and other deterrents were discussed. Unfortunately as there have not yet been any accidents Down Ampney doesn't meet the criteria to qualify for these. There is a 50/50 scheme which DAPC can apply for. There are a significant amount of paperwork and costs involved – initially £2500 for a survey, £250 to go forward with the application and then 50/50 split of the costs to install which the PC would have no input on in terms of equipment, materials, contractor, etc. This is to be discussed further at a later date and be put on a future agenda. 5. CCTV of drainage between Red House and no 4 – survey to be carried out in August after which Amey will report back findings. 6. Little Court – RJ reported a complaint from the residents regarding the water on the road and the impact on their 	<p>Cllr Jenkins</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins</p>

<p>property. Amey have agreed to undertake repairs in due course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speedwatch – this was carried 5 times in the last week and various people were caught and reported. However there is a real lack of volunteers and is difficult to co-ordinate. It was proposed a spreadsheet be kept with all relevant details to aid co-ordination in future <p>Village hub:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed hump maintenance/tarmac – to be completed over the school summer holidays. • Resilience shed – this is now complete and invoice has been paid. <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus stop – PS has contacted GCC as the alternate stop at the war memorial has not been implemented. PS will continue to follow up. • Transparency fund – further funds available in this financial year. Clerk and GC to follow up and make application. • Cutting of grass verges – it was confirmed that Highways are responsible for this. • Re-painting of bus shelter at Broadleaze – to be completed 	<p>Cllr Jenkins</p> <p>Cllr Sillett Cllr Cope/Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Sillett/Cllr Jenkins</p>
<p>4. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS confirmed he had received notification from RAF Fairford that it would be fully reactivated by 2021. A request has been received from the new Pre School venture for further support and funding as they will be starting with a £10K shortfall. This was discussed and all agreed that a more considered business plan was needed before the council would consider the request further. 	
<p>5. Finance Report</p> <p>The accounts for the year to date were presented and there is a surplus for the year to date is £5,048. The main expenses since the last meeting were one quarter's clerk salary, grass-cutting per the contract and the payment for the resilience shed upgrade (£2,400). There are various maintenance matters that are being addressed. Bank balances are currently £36,399. So far there is £530 of VAT to reclaim for the current financial year.</p> <p>6. Meetings/Training</p> <p>Nothing to report other than Highways meeting detailed at point 3.</p>	
<p>7. Village Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of volunteers issue: this problem within the village was 	

<p>discussed at length and some suggestions were made which were agreed to be taken forward. PS suggested an 'open day' to be held in the village hall and various different village organisations to be represented – DAPC, Village Hall, Village Shop, All Saints PCC, DAFC, etc. Clerk to investigate possible dates.</p> <p>DS suggested opening it out to suggestions of new clubs that residents may wish to see start up in the hope that it might spin off into the main organisations.</p> <p>It was agreed advertising would be key. DS agreed to draft something for the next newsletter and circulate</p> <p>It was agreed DAPC would cover the costs of refreshments on the day.</p> <p>Reports from Cllr Tappern:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall Committee:- David Job as Chairman. <p>At the meeting held on Monday 19th June 2017 Paul Norris gave an end of year report which showed that the Village Hall had an end of year finance surplus. Bar takings up but there would have to be a small increase in the price of beer to reflect increased purchase costs. Village Hall bookings were good with Ballroom Dancing being the largest user with 33 events. Impressive range of users from short mat bowls to Cirencester and District air rifle club. Future spend included the additional cost of of the new rubbish bin collection. The new cleaning company was a good improvement.</p> <p>On Health and Safety issues there were no reported accidents. Insurance liability in general should be checked for the Village Hall campus to make certain that areas like the Community Gardens are covered. This requires an action on the Parish Council.</p> <p>David Job reported that he had not had any queries from anyone interested in joining the committee and/or being chair. Disappointing result especially as there had been an article in the Down Ampney news. Even though he will not be "handing over" until Nov 2018 at the moment there is no sign of a successor. This requires an action on the Parish Council.</p> <p>As David Fowles was at the meeting the question of S106 money came up as like many other areas in the village the Village Hall would like the use of some of this money. David Fowles agreed to look at what S106 money would be available from the Broadway Farm development. Also would look at what happened historically with the S106 money for Linden</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Skinner</p>
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<p>Lea.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis Club Committee:- Mike Bruce. At the meeting held on 7th June 2017 it was reported that the club was running well. No major problems and general maintenance would be carried out on keeping the courts clear of moss. Since the meeting the moss cleaning has been carried out. Some repairs required to the fencing. In the longer term resurfacing of the court will be required and this is major expenditure. The question of reclaiming VAT came up as this could save the club thousands of pounds. A complex subject but the potential savings are there. Not urgent and with a timescale of one year. An action for the Parish Council. Clerk advised that this had been looked into before and didn't believe it was possible but agreed to investigate again. There is also a tennis club account held by the Parish Council. First thoughts were to suggest closure of this account but maybe beneficial to keep open whilst the VAT question is under investigation. Clerk is not aware of another Parish Council bank account but will investigate. The tennis club is regularly getting balls over the fence from the play area. The hedge gives some protection but any increase in height would be appreciated. A question for the guy doing the hedge cutting to see what height he could let it grow without giving difficulty in cutting or increase in costs. Action for the Parish Council. RJ advised this would not be a problem – the hedgecutters just need to be advised before carrying out the work. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>8. Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Down Ampney Cedar 17/01345/ENQ – TPO refused – RJ requested that the PC writes to the Tree Officer to express disgust at the decision. It was agreed to write back with disagreement of decision. The Stables – Laines Farm – awaiting full committee meeting. DF to speak on DAPC behalf Broadway Farm – a letter has now been received from Sanctuary Group today. PS summarised the process for the meeting and then summarised the points made in the letter and what the next step is. <u>Points made by members of public</u> <p>1. 24a – the resident has had discussion with the developers</p>	<p>Cllr Jenkins</p>

<p>regarding the dormer windows on the roof. Sanctuary had confirmed to her that they would review these.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The issue of parking in front of the maisonettes on the main road as it was fully expected that residents would park here rather than in the designated spaces as it would be more convenient for access. However this was cause further issues on the main road. RJ advised that the Police would not consider this to be an issue but it may be an issue with the Highway Code and proximity of a junction. 3. Residents were advised that the PC would hold public meetings where possible and that any further points should be sent to the clerk who could forward them on. 	
<p>9. GCC report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Court – the resident reported that he didn’t believe there was a problem with the drainage in front of the property but that the road simply holds too much water. Amey will be undertaking a survey as part of their works and will report back. RJ will follow up with the residents on receipt of the information • AM raised the issue of the decaying road going into Meysey Hampton and whether anything is likely to be done. SP advised that a drainage issue needs to be worked out first. • PS raised the bus stop issue noted above – SP will follow up <p>Cllr Parsons then left the meeting.</p> <p>10. CDC report</p> <p>1. Action from previous meeting</p> <p>Status on grass verge ownership - CDC do not own it manage the grass verges neither does the GCC although they have a statutory duty to maintain them. Maintenance is purely to do with highway safety i.e. Visual splays at junctions and pedestrian access on verges where there is no safe footpath.</p> <p>They have no remit or policy to maintain verges for amenity reasons although if briefed they will recognise and respect experimental grass verges etc.</p> <p>They cut trice a year normally to the width of a sway which roughly equates to a yard.</p> <p>2. Items for information</p> <p>a) The local plan has gone through full council and is now with the Planning Inspector</p> <p>b) The Chesterton application - there is a SIB for all Councillors on 18th July. We are waiting for confirmation on the date of the Planning meeting</p>	<p>Cllr Jenkins</p> <p>Cllr Parsons</p>

<p>c) Planning - you would have read that the current Planning Chairman was convicted of drinking and driving. Before she went to court she stepped down as Chairman and also left the committee. We will appoint her successor on Wed 12th July</p> <p>d) At our annual meeting we made some changes to the leadership, Cabinet, Chairman and Vice Chairman which have all been in the press</p> <p>d) The Stables is going to full planning on Wed 12th July recommending refusal because of materials being used.</p> <p>e) Broadway Farm - there is no section 106 provision. This is due to no requests being put forward by the community that met the criteria. According to the Officers, applications for Section 106 funding is very stringent and must be driven from the community not CDC. DF to report back on criteria for s106 so DAPC can move discussions forward properly with Sanctuary. A question was raised as to why the affordable housing is 50% and not 40%. DF to query and report back.</p> <p>DF made a request to change the PC meeting dates and asked that we liaise with Poulton and Ampney Crucis PC on this as these are the ones which clash. It was agreed for the clerk to look into changing the night to a Tuesday evening.</p>	<p>ClIr Fowles</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>11. AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now that the resilience shed upgrade is complete it was agreed that the contents should be reviewed and renewed where appropriate. • <p>The meeting closed at 10.00pm. The next meeting is on Monday 10th September 2017 at 7.30pm in the Wynne Room.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>